

REMARKS

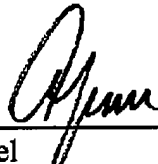
In a telephone interview with the undersigned, the Examiner indicated that claims 32 and 35-46 were allowable, but not claims 47-50.

In this amendment, claim 47 was made dependent on allowable claim 32, and claim 50 was made dependent on allowable claim 47.

Wherefore, an expedited passage of this application to the Issue Branch is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

47. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 32, and [of controlling a laser module in a wavelength division multiplexing application, the module including a variable attenuation attenuator connected to an output of a laser for controlling power of radiation output from the module, the method comprising the step of:] setting [an] the attenuation of the attenuator to [a] the maximum attenuation prior to [powering-up or] powering-down the laser.

50. (Amended) The method according to claim 47, wherein, during powering-down of the laser, following the setting of the attenuation to the maximum attenuation, [a] the laser current is reduced to a substantially zero level.